6   [a central processing unit (CPU)] an application server configured to control [for

7   controlling the] access to data stored in the database and to set up and send a document file

8   having a representation of an object and associated documents that are stored in the database ;

9   a memory for storing software code for controlling the operation of the [CPU] application

10   server;

11   access data application code stored in the memory and executable by the [CPU]

12   application server, the application code being responsive to the access criteria associated with the

13   groups of data contained within [an] a version of an object and to predetermined privileges for

14   allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the version of the object

15   by an individual user that was set up to be sent to a user computer system and that may be

16   viewed by a user according to the user's predetermined privileges on the user computer system.

1   2. (Amended) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the access data application code

2   enables [includes] the ability of a user to read the contents of the transferred version of the

3   requested object that was sent by the application server according to access privileges associated

4   with the user.

1   3. (Amended) A system according to Claim 2, wherein the access data application code

2   includes the ability to modify the contents of the version of the requested object.

1   4. (Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein the ability to modify includes the

2   ability to delete information contained in the version of the requested object.

1   5. (Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein the ability to modify includes the

2   ability to add data to the version of the requested object.

1   6. (Amended) A system according to Claim 1 wherein the access to the version of the

2   object is determined by a business relationship to produce products and defined by the host

3   according to the need of information in the product chain, and wherein the transferred version of

4   the object is configured to reveal limited information according to a guest user's predetermined

5   access privileges.

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1   7. (Amended) A method of controlling access to objects stored in electronic form,

2 comprising:

3   storing an object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data, each group of

4 data having associated access criteria for access to the groups of data;

5   controlling the access to the database using a [central processing unit(CPU)] an

6 application server, that is configured to set up a version of an object according to access criteria

7 established for a user;

8   storing software code for controlling the operation of the CPU in memory;

9   transferring a version of an object to a user in the form of a document file having the

10 version of the object and any associated documents requested by a user contained therein; and

11   allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the transferred

12 version of the object by an individual user according to [the] an individual user's predetermined

13 privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within

14 [an] the version of the object transferred to the user and to a user's predetermined privileges.

1   8. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7 further comprising:

2   receiving an object request by a requestor;

3   verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria; and

4   transmitting [information] a version of an object configured to reveal information

5 contained with in the version of the object according to the requestor's user privilege access

6 criteria.

1   9. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein establishing [an] a version of an

2 object includes loading information into the version of the object into separate groups having

3 separate access privilege criteria.

1   10. (Amended)   A method according to Claim 7, wherein establishing privilege

2 access criteria includes identifying the separate groups of information to which the user may

3 access for use in setting up a version of the object to be sent to the user in response to the user

4 request.

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1   11. (Amended)   A method according to Claim 7, wherein verifying the requestor's

2   user privilege access criteria includes extracting the requestor's user identification from the

3   object request, verifying the requestor's user identification and identifying the groups of data

4   within the version of the object to which the requestor has access.

1   12. (Amended)   A method according to Claim 7, [wherein] further comprising

2   transmitting a redacted version of an object [includes] by sending an electronic object to the

3   requestor that contains the groups of information to which the requestor has access to and that

4   excludes groups of information associated with an object to which the requestor does not have

5   access.

1   13.(Amended) A computer program product for use with a computer system, a central

2   processing unit and means coupled to the central processing unit for storing a database to

3   automatically manage objects for viewing and marking an object having varying formats without

4   the use of any originating application of a file to view the object, comprising:

5   computer readable code means for establishing an object in a storage location;

6   computer readable code means for identifying a user to have limited access to

7   information associated with the object;

8   computer readable code means for establishing privilege access criteria that define the

9   scope of access of a version of the object for the user;

10   computer readable code means for receiving an object request by a requestor;

11   computer readable code means for verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria;

12   and

13   computer readable code means for transmitting a version of the requested object in the

14   form of a redacted document that masks information according to the requestor's user privilege

15   access criteria.

1   14. (Amended)   A computer program device, comprising:

2   a computer program storage device readable by a digital processing apparatus;

3   a program stored on the program storage device and including instructions executable by

4   the digital processing apparatus for controlling the apparatus to perform a method of managing

4

5   documents for viewing and [marking] modifying an object [having varying formats without the

6   use of any originating application of a file] to allow a user to view and modify a version of the

7   object stored in the file, comprising:

8   establishing an object in a storage location;

9   identifying a user to have access to the object;

10   establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access of a version of the

11   object for the user;

12   receiving a object request by a requestor;

13   verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria; and

14   transmitting a redacted version of a requested object in the form of a document file

15   containing the version of the requested object that was filtered according to the requestor's user

16   privilege access criteria.

1   15. (Amended)   In a computer server having a data base for storing data pertaining

2   to product information, a method of securely transferring data between a source and an access

3   destination comprising:

4   establishing an object in a storage location;

5   identifying a user to have limited access to the object;

6   establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access of a version of the

7   object for the user;

8   receiving a object request by a requestor;

9   verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria;

10   setting up a version of an object and associated documents according to user access

11   privileges for transmission to the user; and

12   transmitting a redacted version of the requested object that set up according to the

13   requestor's user privilege access criteria, wherein the access criteria defines the information in

14   which a user has privileges of access to the version of the requested object.

1   16. (New Claim)   In an application server having access to a data base for storing objects

2   and associated documents, a method of securely transferring a version of an object and

3   associated documents from the application server to a user system via a network comprising:

4   establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access permitted to a user of

5   a version of an object that may be set up and sent to the privileged user;

6   receiving a object request by a user via a network for access to a version of an object to

7   which the user has access privileges;

8   verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria;

9   setting up a version of an object and associated documents according to user access

10   privileges for transmission to the user; and

11   transmitting a version of the requested object that was set up according to the requestor's

12   user privilege access criteria in the form of a document file that includes a version of the

13   requested object and a version of associated documents via the network.

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